

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00
USIA-06 TRSE-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 ACDA-07
/049 W

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R 071805Z SEP 77

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8239

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 25989

USOECD

EXCON

E.O. 11652: XGDS1

TAGS: ESTC, COCOM

SUBJ: BELGIAN OBSOLESCENCE CRITERION PROPOSAL

REFS: A) COCOM DOC. PROC (77) 2, B) PARIS 13089 AND
PREVIOUS (NOTAL)

1: SUMMARY: ACCORDING TO BELGIAN DEL, UNDER SLIGHTLY
REVISED BELGIAN OBSOLESCENCE CRITERION PROPOSAL TO BE
PRESENTED AT OCTOBER 10 COCOM MEETING EQUIPMENT OR MATE-
RIALS WHICH HAVE BEEN ON MARKET FOR FIVE YEARS COULD
BEFREED FROM APPLICATION OF IL IF PROPOSAL IS SUPPORTED
BY AT LEAST TWO COUNTRIES. UNDER ORIGINAL BELGIAN PRO-
POSAL, SUPPORT BY ONLY ONE COUNTRY WAS NECESSARY. END
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SUMMARY.

2. DURING LUNCHEON MEETING WHICH ALSO INCLUDED JAPA-
NESE DEL SAITO, BELGIAN DEL WILLY STEVENS INFORMED USDEL
THAT HE HAD JUST RECEIVED WORD OF CHANGE IN BELGIAN OB-
SOLESCENCE PROPOSAL. REVISED PROPOSAL WILL BE OUTLINED
BY BELGIAN DELEGATIONSAT OCTOBER 10 CRITERION DISCUSS-

IONS AND WILL NOT BE FORMALLY PRESENTED TO OTHER COUNTRIES BEFORE THEN. HOWEVER STEVENS OUTLINED OPERATION OF REVISED PLAN AS FOLLOWS:

3. ANY MEMBER COUNTRY COULD PROPOSE THAT ANY MATERIAL OR EQUIPMENT BE EXCLUDED FROM IL LIST IF SAID PRODUCT HAS BEEN ON MARKET IN ANY COCOM COUNTRY FOR AT LEAST FIVE YEARS AND IF THAT MEMBER COUNTRY CONSIDERS THAT IT IS NO LONGER OF STRATEGIC VALUE. IF ANOTHER MEMBER COUNTRY SUBMITS COUNTER-PROPOSAL AGAINST EXCLUDING PRODUCT FROM APPLICATION OF IL, THIS COUNTER-PROPOSAL WOULD HAVE TO RECEIVE SUPPORT OF ALL OTHER COUNTRIES "EXCEPT FOR THE COUNTRY SUBMITTING ORIGINAL REQUEST FOR FREEING THE ITEM" WHICH WOULD ABSTAIN FROM VOTING. (UNDER ORIGINAL BELGIAN PLAN, IN SIMILAR SITUATIONS, EQUIPMENT WOULD REMAIN ON LIST ONLY WITH UNANIMOUS SUPPORT OF ALL MEMBER COUNTRIES.) IN EFFECT, UNDER REVISED BELGIAN OBSOLESCENCE PLAN, ANY PROPOSAL TO FREE EQUIPMENT OR MATERIALS WHICH HAVE BEEN ON MARKET FOR FIVE YEARS FROM APPLICATION OF IL WOULD REQUIRE SUPPORT OF AT LEAST TWO MEMBER COUNTRIES FOR ADOPTION.

4. STEVENS POINTED OUT THAT BELGIAN PROPOSAL DEALT WITH SPECIFIC PRODUCTS ONLY AND THAT SUBSEQUENT CHANGES IN IL DEFINITIONS WOULD STILL REQUIRE UNANIMOUS APPROVAL. HE NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT SUCH CHANGES WOULD PROBABLY CONFIDENTIAL

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BE MORE OR LESS PRO FORMA TO BRING THE DEFINITIONS IN LINE WITH LIST OF FREED EQUIPMENT.

5. STEVENS EMPHASIZED THAT BELGIAN GOVERNMENT (GOB) WAS NOT NECESSARILY WED TO DETAILS OF ITS PROPOSAL AND WAS COMPLETELY OPEN TO CONSIDER ALTERNATIVE OBSOLESCENCE PLANS DEVELOPED BY OTHER COUNTRIES. HE NOTED THAT BELGIAN PROPOSAL HAD ALREADY BEEN MODIFIED AS RESULT OF DISCUSSION WITH OTHER MEMBERS. EXPLAINING THAT GOB WAS PLACING HIGH PRIORITY ON OCTOBER 10 MEETING, STEVENS INDICATED THAT NOTES VERBALE REGARDING BELGIAN PROPOSAL HAD BEEN SENT TO SEVERAL GOVERNMENTS INCLUDING JAPAN.
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Sent Date: 07-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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